

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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WHOLE No. 448

Death AND Taxes

Here are some facts on taxes that you should know:
There are 1,743,000 taxpayers who earn over \$5000.
There are 20,211,000 taxpayers who earn between \$2000 and \$5000.

BUT there are 25,691,000 who earn LESS than \$2000 a year. In other words, more than half (54 per cent) earn under \$2000.
HR-1, the House-passed "tax reduction" bill, throws a little sop to the low-income group, but gives the gravy to those in the top income brackets least in need of tax relief.

Labor economists propose an increase in personal exemptions to \$5500 for a family of four, instead of the present \$2000; that corporate taxes be maintained at the present rate of 38 per cent, with a graduated tax on corporations earning less than \$25,000 starting at 10 per cent on the first \$5000 of income and reaching 38 per cent on all income above \$25,000; increasing the capital gains levy to at least 50 per cent and placing of a federal tax on all securities now exempted. Enactment of these changes, it is pointed out, would increase federal revenue by \$200 million while at the same time easing the burden on low-income families and small businesses.

SAVINGS DROP HALF IN 1946

Washington, D. C.
The American people in 1946 saw their savings drop 42 per cent below what they were in 1945, the Commerce Dept. said in a review of savings trends published in its official bulletin, Survey of Current Business.

Whereas savings in all forms totaled \$33 billion in 1945, they dropped to \$19 billion in 1946, the review said. The decline was blamed on "price rises, increased quantities of consumer goods, expanded consumer credit and the disappearance of wartime savings pressures."

Who cut his savings in 1945? The report said during the year "there was a shift in the purchase of U. S. government series E bonds from the lower to the higher denominations, suggesting that low income groups are now much less important in the market for savings bonds than during the war."

"Redemptions of series E bonds outstripped purchases in 1946, resulting in a net decline of \$500 million in the amount outstanding." At the same time consumers were killing their savings through use of short-term credit, which rose \$2.4 billion in 1946 over 1945, particularly by opening charge accounts and borrowing money on a single-payment basis.

"Savings out of current income are estimated to have declined still further in the first quarter of 1947," the review said, "because of additional price rises and the continued expansion of consumer debt."

Teamsters Establish Record for Driving Without Accidents

Seattle, Wash.
Twenty-two teamsters here have driven 300 times around the world without an accident.

That's the equivalent record set by 22 members of the Intl. Bro. of Teamsters in driving a total distance of 7 1/2 million miles in three quarters of a century of driving time. For their safety record they received awards from the Employers Mutual Liability Insurance Co. of Wisconsin.

Top record was held by Walter Tripp of IBT Local 174, who drove more than 500,000 miles in nine years without a single accident.

ATTENTION, SECRETARY!

In this issue you will find the Local Union Directory which is published the second issue of each month. Please turn to it at once to see whether the listing of your union is correct. If not, will you make a notation of changes that should be made and notify us so that we can make them next month? We try to keep the directory as up-to-date as possible, and your prompt help will enable us to do a better job.

Labor Demonstration Fails to Stop Iowa Bills Against Labor

Des Moines, Iowa.
An anti-closed shop bill passed the Republican-controlled house 74 to 31 despite a statewide 1-day protest stoppage by 100,000 Iowa workers the day before.

Adopted after two days of heated arguments, the bill was even more drastic than a previously approved senate version. It was sent back to the other chamber for final action.

The bill retained the bans on the closed shop, union shop and dues check-off which were part of the senate version. The house bill in addition provided for injunctions against violations of the bans, strengthened enforcement and made the measure effective upon enactment.

Truman Asked to Pick Liberals to Head Greek Help

Washington, D. C.
A way for Pres. Truman to avoid having his plan of intervention in Greece and Turkey being branded as undemocratic was suggested by Americans for Democratic Action.

ADA put forward a list of eight individuals and suggested that Truman name one of them as chief of his proposed Greek commission. It said that the selection of personnel for the administration of the Truman doctrine "provides the first acid test of our government's aim to support the democratic alternative against totalitarianism."

The ADA statement was issued by Natl. Chairman Wilson W. Wyatt and Chairman Leon Henderson of the executive committee. The ADA slate listed Editor Mark Ethridge of the Louisville Courier Journal, Paul Porter, former OPA administrator; Chester A. Bowles, also an ex-OPA administrator; Newsman Byron Price, Adlai E. Stevenson, Robert M. LaFollette and John J. McCloy.

Ethridge and Porter won enthusiastic mention in the statement, which urged Truman to "draft them for this formidable assignment."

"The ambiguities of the so-called Truman doctrine," ADA found, "have led some to charge that the administration proposes unlimited support for any forces in the world, however, corrupt or reactionary, if they promise to oppose communism."

"In order to refute this charge... in order to retain the backing of American liberals, the commission to be sent to Greece must be composed of men whose genuine faith in democracy is plain and unassailable."

ADA said that "if the administration or the Congress ignores such men to choose others qualified only by the successful discharge of narrow business or military duties, the attacks of the critics of the program will be largely justified."

PRINTERS OF N. Y. GIVEN \$90 A WEEK

New York City
Pay increases of 16 per cent to 20 per cent for 4000 composing room employees of 27 newspapers here were accepted by members of Local 6, Intl. Typographical Union.

The new 1-year contract, retroactive to April 1, was signed by the Big Six and the Publishers Assn. of New York City, representing 15 newspapers. Its provisions also apply to 12 papers not represented by the association.

The new scale gives day shift printers \$90 a week, an increase of \$12.50. Night shift pay is increased from \$81 a week to \$85, and the early morning shift from \$83.50 to \$100.

Workday for the day and night shifts is reduced from 7 1/4 to 7 hours, while the early morning shift remains at 7. The contract also increases paid vacations to three weeks and provides for two weeks severance pay in case of dismissals because of newspaper mergers.

Local 6 Pres. Laurence H. Victory called the contract "one of the best that we have ever negotiated." Settlement came after printers in four newspaper plants staged slow-downs to protest offers made up to them by the publishers.

General Motors Labor Force Set at 375,000

Detroit, Mich.
Employment in General Motors Corp. today is about 275,000. Chairman Alfred P. Sloan reports.

Butcher Data Cites Pearson About Prices

In a bulletin issued by the research department of the Western Federation of Butchers of California last week, entitled "Prices," excerpts from a column by Drew Pearson are quoted. The entire bulletin is reprinted here as a service to butchers and other union members at request of Earl A. Moorhead, secretary of Butchers Union 506.

The bulletin is as follows:
SUBJECT: PRICES
We are sending this Memo consisting of excerpts from Drew Pearson's Washington Merry-Go-Round of April 15, 1947, because we believe the points brought out in the column are fundamentally sound and can be profitably quoted.

"Washington—Those who sat in on President Truman's highly secret meeting with the cabinet and the Council of Economic Advisers considered it one of the most important sessions in the history of the Truman administration—or of any administration, for that matter. Never before had a President and his cabinet come together with the nation's outstanding economists to chart the economic future of the country before, not after, trouble starts."

"Inside fact is that the three-man council of economic advisers gave the cabinet a gloomy report on the economic outlook of the nation."

"The President had invited the council to familiarize his cabinet members with the national price crisis, and they pulled no punches."

"Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, chairman of the council, did most of the talking. 'If something isn't done and done soon, we're riding for a fall,' he declared bluntly. However, he didn't limit himself to the dangerous price situation, but gave a stethoscopic analysis of the nation's entire economic health."

"Here are the high points of what he told the all-important closed cabinet meeting:

"Dr. Nourse's Warning—
"1. Prices have increased about 70 per cent on all commodities since last July 1. Foodstuffs have gone up about 80 per cent, raw materials about 55 per cent on an average."

"2. In some fields, wholesalers and retailers are pricing themselves out of the market. The demand for certain goods—clothing, women's apparel and shoes—has dropped to the danger point. Even in lines recently scarce, such as radios, refrigerators and higher-priced automobiles, Nourse reported, demand is going way down."

"3. While prices have increased, consumers' wages have dropped. This disturbed Nourse greatly. Secretary of the Interior Krug and Secretary of Commerce Harman backed him up regarding this."

"The figures used by Nourse for his conclusions show that wages dropped about \$5,500,000,000 between the first quarter of 1945 and the last quarter of 1946."

"However, while wages dropped in 1945, profits soared. During 1945 net corporate profits were \$9,000,000,000. In 1946, with wages dropping, profits climbed to \$12,000,000,000. However, that was only part of the story. During the last quarter of 1946, profits were mounting at the rate of \$14,000,000,000 for the year, and during the first quarter of this year they increased at an even higher rate."

"During this same period wages were tumbling from a 1945 high of \$11,000,000,000 to \$106,000,000,000 in 1946—and still going down in 1947. That was why Mr. Truman made his statement the day after the cabinet meeting that if prices don't come down, wages must go up."

"INDUSTRY ENDED OPA—
"4. Nourse pointed out that industry had asked for a chance to make free enterprise work without price controls, and that with OPA gone, prices would find their natural level. This level, Dr. Nourse said, was a new high in history and hardly natural."

"Someone raised the point that businessmen were worried about getting together to cut prices for fear of anti-trust prosecution, which caused Attorney General Tom Clark to report that he was looking around for means of avoiding this danger."

"I don't think the Justice Department would prosecute any groups that got together to help the public," Clark said.

"Perhaps the most important part of Nourse's candid cabinet talk was about the future of American economy. Nourse reported that he did not consider a recession necessary, though it was becoming more and more likely because of high prices."

"The country has reached a point, he said, where its productive ca-

NOTES FROM YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE

Recent newspaper stories from Sacramento about activities of the legislature's "social security committee" have led some people to fear that their protection under the old-age and survivors insurance program is threatened.

There is no foundation for this fear. The articles referred to the state's public assistance programs, which are administered by the California Department of Social Welfare, through the county welfare departments. They include old-age assistance (often called the "old-age pension") and other payments based on need.

Old-age and survivors insurance, on the other hand, is operated by the federal government, and cannot be changed by any state legislature. It is social insurance, financed by 1 per cent contributions from workers and employers, and benefits are not based on need. Rather than being decreased, we are hopeful that it will be broadened and improved by Congress.

Egg Workers' Agreement Is Settled

Settlement of the new contract covering egg workers of Butchers Union 506 of San Jose and surrounding counties and also of Butchers Union 266 of Santa Cruz was announced this week by Earl A. Moorhead, secretary of Local 506, and Kasper Bauer, secretary of Local 266.

The new agreement sets up wages for male egg workers as follows: Experienced, \$1.27 1/2 per hour; inexperienced, \$1.22 1/2; female egg workers, experienced, 95c; inexperienced, 85c first 30 days, 90c thereafter until qualified for top pay.

Female egg candler in re-grading will receive \$1.00 per hour, on machines, \$1.02 1/2. Egg candler will receive 25 cents per case with the maximum increased from 28 to 30 cases per day.

Six holidays with pay were won, as compared to three formerly, the holidays now including New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July Fourth, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Vacations were set up on the basis of 1500 hours of work to qualify, one week for the first year, two weeks for two years or more, and with a provision for pro-rata of vacation pay if an employee terminates work on the basis of one day of vacation for each 300 hours of work.

Sick leave of five working days per year, with pay, was won in the contract, the sick leave to begin with the second day of illness.

Epic of Heroism: 35 Men Attack Two Girls

Easton, Maryland.
Vigilant businessmen of Easton, 35 strong, bravely surrounded two picketing telephone girls at the local exchange and drove them off to permit five scabs to return to work. The vigilante group then volunteered to contact other scabs and put service on a near-normal basis in this non-dual system community. Police Chief Walter B. Wood, who took no action, said all was quiet here.

It is so great that the nation can have almost any kind of prosperity it wants. He explained, however, that if we are to have continued full employment, industry must raise its sights, plow profits back into expansion and continuously strive to produce abundantly at low prices for the widest possible consumption.

"If we don't do something about prices now," emphasized Dr. Nourse, "the fall will be that much harder later on."

"Other significant points were developed indicating that 'famine exists in the midst of plenty.' Recent federal reserve statistics, for instance, reveal that 10 per cent of American families have more than 60 per cent of the savings, that the top 30 per cent of the nation's families have 80 per cent of the savings and that the bottom 70 per cent have only 20 per cent."

"This lower 70 per cent is the backbone of industry's postwar market. As its savings diminish, the chances for prosperity diminish. Federal Reserve Board figures show that 40 per cent of American families have average savings of only \$40 per family, or enough to keep going only one week if the breadwinner loses his job."

SALINAS LABOR TEMPLE ASSN. INCORPORATES; STOCK TO BE SOLD SOON

Incorporation under state law of the Salinas Labor Temple Association, with a capital stock of \$200,000, was announced last week by Peter A. Andrade, association secretary and also secretary of Warehousemen's Union 890.

Andrade said the new corporation is composed of the majority of unions in the Salinas area and added that John Muller, local attorney, has been engaged to set up the new organization.

"Stock will be issued shortly in accordance with terms and provisions adopted by the Board of Directors of the new association," Andrade said. The directors represent all the AFL unions of the area.

A special committee under the association is investigating several possible sites for the new Class A building proposed to house all AFL labor union here.

It has been estimated that the entire cost of the new venture, including the site, will be near \$100,000.

Advance pledges by labor unions have reached a total of about \$50,000, Andrade reported. More pledges are expected in addition to good sale of stock, he said.

Warehousemen 890 and Laborers Union 272 put up \$500 each to cover initial cost of incorporation. Randolph Fenchel, president of Local 272, is also president of the Labor Temple Association.

A complete and detailed report of activity will be made to AFL members through this paper at a later date, including information regarding sale and purchase of stock.

RIAL, HARTER AT CARPENTER WAGE MEETING

R. A. ("Dick") Rial, business agent for Carpenters 1323 of Monterey and also for the Monterey Building Trades Council, and George R. Harter, business agent for Carpenters 925 of Salinas, were in San Francisco last weekend attending meetings on a new area wage contract for carpenters.

The contract with the Associated General Contractors, was being negotiated following settlement of new wage provisions for union carpenters under the AGC in the Los Angeles area, where carpenters won a 25-cent hourly increase in pay.

Included under the contract being negotiated at the San Francisco meeting are all carpenters of 46 Northern California counties.

STRIKERS TO START PAPER

Springfield, Mass.
This city, whose four newspapers have been struck since last Sept. 26, will have a new evening newspaper by June 2, it has been announced here. It'll be called the Sentinel.

The new paper, whose backers are reported to have pledged a square deal for labor in contrast to Sherman Hoar Bowles' union-busting tactics, is backed financially by former Mayor Roger L. Putnam, a leading Democrat and chairman of the board of the Package Machinery Co.

The four Bowles papers were shut down by a strike of the AFL printers, pressmen and stereotypers, who were joined six weeks later by the American Newspaper Guild. Two papers have resumed publishing with scab labor but their circulation and advertising is relatively small.

Plans for the new paper result from the efforts of a special committee appointed by Mayor Daniel B. Brunton after the Bowles dailies suspended. Putnam was chairman and the members are William Morgan of the Albert Steiger Co., Pres. Geo. Clark of the 3rd Natl. Bank & Trust Co., Pres. W. Lee Costigan of the Chamber of Commerce and Atty. Raymond King, former city solicitor.

The new newspaper, it was announced, will be operated in competition with the Bowles papers whether or not they all resume publication.

The GOP's Solution

Because the Bureau of Labor Statistics reluctantly reported that the cost of living has gone up, the Republican Congress has cut its budget from \$6,700,000 to \$3,375,000. This is on the theory that if the baby has a bellyache, you should cut his tongue out so he can't cry.

\$50,000 Set As Salinas Rodeo Prizes

Arena winners will split between \$40,000 and \$50,000 cash at the revived California Rodeo at Salinas, June 19-22. These purses, which include added entrance fees, are the largest in history of any four-performance rodeo in the United States.

Heretofore, the California Rodeo has been held in July. This year, however, to comply with California Centennial programs throughout the state, the dates were set ahead to June. It is the first rodeo to be held at Salinas since 1941 when, due to wartime conditions, the grounds were not available.

Entry fees close June 9, with the following full program of events to entice the world's most outstanding talent to arena and track: Bronc riding, bull riding, bareback riding, calf roping, team roping, steer wrestling, wild cow milking, wild horse race, pony express relay and quarter horse racing on a new straightaway track.

Several track features are brand new in the big four-day event which annually attracts from 1,000 to 1,500 horses and riders in the daily parade which starts at 1 p.m., proceeding through Main street to the grounds located a mile north of Salinas on 101 Highway.

Stamp collectors who desire cachet covers which will commemorate the rodeo opening should send properly stamped and addressed envelopes to the Monterey Bay Philatelic Society, Y. M. C. A. Building, Salinas, so that they will arrive not later than June 17.

Jobless Benefit Pay is Restored To Fishermen

Employment benefits, taken away from Monterey fishermen four weeks ago under a new ruling of the California Department of Employment following a court decision, were restored to the fishermen last week.

A newer interpretation of the fishermen's status resulted in the restoration of benefits, union officials said. Fishermen and their union had appealed the earlier decision.

Not only were the weekly benefits restored under the new interpretation, but compensation for the four weeks during which payments were withheld was ordered given the workers, it was reported.

Fish Canning Still Slow

Work along Monterey's "Cannery Row," which still hasn't recovered from last season's lack of available fish, is continuing below normal, the Fish Cannery Workers Union reports.

Few plants are working at all this far this Spring and the pack incloses only a little squid and some anchovies, the union said. Summer pack of sardines hasn't started as yet.

Culinary - Bartenders Meet on Wage Contract

A meeting of Culinary Alliance and Bartenders Union 483 of Monterey was to be held early this week for the purpose of deciding on wage contract terms to be negotiated with employers shortly, reports Pearl Robinson, union secretary.

Highlight of the meeting was to be Mrs. Robinson's report on the recent International convention of the craft which she attended.

Australian Boycott on Dutch Ships Continues

Sydney, Australia.
The former Netherlands Minister to Australia said recently that in his opinion the Australian dockers would continue to boycott Dutch ships until the Linggadjati Agreement (satisfying Indonesian national aspirations) was signed by the Dutch.

AFL Convention Calendar

Date, 1947	Organization	Place
May 12—	Brotherhood of Railway Clerks	Cincinnati
May 19—	Intl. Plate, Printers & Die Stampers	New York City
June 9—	American Federation of Musicians	Detroit
June 9—	Switchmen's Union of North America	Buffalo
June 16—	Boot and Shoe Workers	Cincinnati
June 16—	Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers	Cleveland
July 2—	National Brotherhood Operative Potters	Chicago
July 8—	Intl. Assn. of Longshoremen	New York City
July 14—	Washington State Federation of Labor	Seattle
July 14—	Intl. Protective Assn. Retail Clerks	San Francisco
July 14—	Bro. Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen	San Francisco
July 21—	Intl. Union Stove Mounters	Kalamazoo
July 21—	Intl. Stereotypers & Electrotypers	Montreal, Can.
July 28—	Railroad Yardmasters of America	Portland, Ore.
Aug. (?)—	Nevada State Federation of Labor	Ely, Nev.
Aug. 4—	California State Federation of Labor	Sacramento
Aug. 11—	United Garment Workers of America	Oshkosh, Wis.
Aug. 11—	Intl. Bro. Teamsters, Chauffeurs	San Francisco
Aug. 16—	Intl. Typographical Union	Cleveland
Aug. 18—	Intl. Photo Engravers Union	Chicago
Aug. 18—	Utah State Federation of Labor	Provo
Sept. 8—	Amal. Assn. Street & Electric Ry.	Los Angeles
Sept. 9—	United Assn. Plumbing, Pipefitting Ind.	Undecided
Sept. 11—	Arizona State Federation of Labor	Tucson
Sept. 12—	Intl. Union Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers	Los Angeles
Sept. 15—	Intl. Bro. Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Wks.	Milwaukee
Sept. 16—	Bro. Railroad Trainmen	Miami Beach
Sept. 20—	American Wire Weavers Protective Assn.	New York City
Sept. 29—	Metal Trades Department	San Francisco
Oct. 1—	Building & Construction Trades Department	San Francisco
Oct. 2—	New Mexico State Federation of Labor	Carlsbad
Oct. 3—	Union Label Trades Department	San Francisco
Oct. 6—	Intl. Asbestos Workers	Undecided
Oct. 9—	American Federation of Labor	San Francisco
Oct. 20—	Commercial Telegraphers Union	Los Angeles
Nov. 17—	Intl. Automobile Workers	Milwaukee
Dec. 6—	Intl. Bill Posters	Chicago

It's His Baby!



Chairman of the House Labor Committee, Rep. Fred A. Hartley (R. N. J.) hears major responsibility for the vicious union-smashing bill that would wreck the labor movement. Long an enemy of labor, Hartley has led the fight to strip workers of their hard won rights.—(Federated Pictures.)

Calif. Labor Facts

Here are interesting facts about the Department of Industrial Relations, as recorded in the report for the Governor's Council for the month of April: California ranked seventh among the states in the number of work stoppages beginning in 1946. Workers involved in disputes numbered 258,000.

A million more Californians now hold jobs than were employed at this same time seven years ago. Civilians currently at work in the state are in excess of 3 1/2 million.

In January of this year there were 11,620 disabling accidents reported, with 60 fatalities, 10,487 were men and 1133 were women.

During March 566 complaints charging employers with failure to carry workmen's compensation insurance were filed.

California is the leading state in the number of apprentices—there were 20,991 registered apprentices in the state at the end of January. It has nearly 2 1/2 times the apprentices of the runner-up state, Michigan.

During March, the Division of Industrial Welfare found several violations of state labor law: 16 on wages; 205 in records; 77 on hours; 383 in working conditions. Complaints of labor law violation are on the increase in the state. \$84,147.35 in unpaid wages was recovered. Some 54 criminal prosecutions were started. Five of the cases concluded in March were actions brought against labor contractors or private employment agencies for operating contrary to law.

Child labor violations are generally on the decrease.

A recent survey of 75 California union contracts covering employees in retail trade establishments reveals that 70 agreements, or more than 90 per cent, allowed a maximum of 2 weeks vacation with pay.

Jobs Declining For Handicapped

Washington, D. C.
Job opportunities for handicapped workers are decreasing from the wartime peak despite more general acceptance of their abilities. Because of the drop, intensified Federal wage and hour enforcement activities are necessary to protect the interest of both labor and management as handicapped workers return to jobs in charitable non-profit "sheltered workshops."

An Evening Blouse?



This scanty getup worn by model Dottie McEwen is supposed to be the latest in evening blouses. Based on a French fashion effect comes close to creating an effect of nudity from the waist up. What's next?—(Federated Pictures.)

Senators Back Federal Funds To Aid Teacher

Washington, D. C.
Senators Claude Pepper (D, Fla.) and James E. Murray (D, Mont.) introduced a bill (S. 1157) providing federal grants-in-aid to pay adequate salaries to teachers in the free public schools.

The proposal sets \$2400 for teachers with a four year college degree and \$1800 for those without such qualifications, and calls for distribution of the increase without regard to race, creed, color or religion to free public elementary or secondary schools supported exclusively by public funds.

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ments or signed communications printed herein.

The Labor Editor Speaks

THE NAM'S LIE-FACTORY

With millions of dollars to spend to bamboozle the public, the National Association of Manufacturers has been placing large advertisements in the daily press "proving" that even unionists are "5 to 1" against the closed shop. The NAM says this was revealed in a nationwide poll, but it does not say who conducted the poll, when it was taken, or how the questions were worded.

In the first place, practically all union contracts that we know anything about are approved by membership vote. If a contract provides for the closed shop and that contract is approved by the majority of the members, then how is it possible for the members to be "5 to 1" against it? The answer is that it can't be. The other answer is that the NAM lies, and they know that we know that they lie.

All this talk about the closed shop being undemocratic, "un-American," "dictatorial," etc. is just so much propaganda hogwash. Decisions made by majority vote of those concerned constitute the very foundation of the American democratic tradition. That principle operates in all our federal, state, county and municipal elections—even when the vote is 51 per cent to 49 per cent. If Hank Jones is elected sheriff by 51 per cent of the vote as against 49 per cent of the vote for Sam Smith, does the 49 per cent denounce the result as dictatorial and consider the result "dictatorial" and a violation of the "right to vote"? Of course not. Anybody who suggested such a thing would be considered a likely prospect for a lunatic asylum.

But when a majority of employees in a factory, through their union, back the closed shop and the employer signs a closed shop contract, and the minority has to go along with the majority decision—this, according to the NAM, is awful. Actually the NAM doesn't think any such thing—it is simply against the very principle of collective bargaining. So it resorts to this type of lying propaganda with the hope that it will confuse enough morons.

ANOTHER EDISON BRINGS LIGHT

Theodore Edison, youngest son of the late Thomas A. Edison, has set aside \$1,260,000 to form an organization to promote industrial harmony. We suggest that the members of the National Manufacturers Association and the labor-baiters and witch-hunters in Congress paste one of Mr. Edison's statements on their bathroom mirrors and read it every time they shave: "If we want millions of desperately grooping people in foreign lands to subscribe to our way of life, we had better make very sure that democracy will always continue to offer more than any other system by removing friction from 'our way' before it is too late. There is only one efficient agitator in the world, and that is injustice."

MOWING DOWN A MYTH

Reactionaries are always telling us that collective medicine, old-age pensions, etc., are bad because they remove incentive and destroy individual initiative. Barrows Dunham in "Man Against Myth" knocks this bewhiskered bogey flatter than a pancake: "The supposed conflict between security and incentive vanishes the moment we realize that security is itself an incentive. . . . If security were not an incentive, on what basis would insurance be sold?"

ROBBING PETER FOR PAUL?

King Paul, who has taken the place of his late brother on the Greek throne, has an interesting background. In 1936 he led a fascist National Organization of Youth which was used to set up the dictator, John Metaxas. His queen is Princess Frederika, German-born. The King himself has no Greek blood. He has never shown any interest in democracy and his whole record shows him in favor of the "strong-arm" type of regime and against basic civil liberties. What are we buying for our money?

A CHORE FOR LABOR

Whatever became of that program of Governor Warren's for a state compulsory health program? Isn't it about time that a united labor movement put this on the ballot in the form of an initiative measure? And what'll you bet it won't carry once it's submitted to the voters?

ON THE HOT SEAT

A wag, writing in an Eastern labor paper, says that, considering the way Congress is thinking up new ways to hogtie labor and mulct consumers, the American people are suffering from Capitol punishment.

THE PARCHED THROAT

This one from Barrows Dunham's "Man Against Myth" is a dilly: "Free enterprise is a euphemism under which businessmen conceal their thirst for profits."

GIGGLES AND GROANS

OBJECTIVE OF PROGRESS

A globe-trotter reports the many advantages gained in the last decade or so in Mexico under more progressive administrations. Illiteracy has been cut to 40 per cent. Schools are springing up everywhere. He visited for some time a rural community where almost the entire populace could be classified as laborers, or peons. There they established a fine university, tuition free for the formerly underprivileged kids. Not only did these develop into industrious students, but they went in for our type of sport events in a big way.

They organized teams, got donations of instruments for a first-class band, trained drum major-ettes, cheer leaders and organized a huge rooting section for the games.

To show its appreciation, the community, appropriately enough, decided to name the school "Peon University." The traveler reports it was an inspiration to watch the cheering section during one of the big games when the going got bad for the home team.

Earnest young faces watched the leader for his signal. Then when it came they would lustily give with the college yell:

"Rah! Rah! Rah! Peon U!"

THEN THE FUN BEGAN!

"And what did my darling do all the evening?"

"I played postman, Mummy. I put a letter in every house in the avenue. Real letters, too. I found a big bundle of them in your drawer, tied up in pink ribbon."

DOMESTIC SCENE

HE: "I love you, sweetheart!"

SHE: "I love to hear you say that, darling!"

HE: "Give me one more kiss before I go, sweetheart!"

SHE: "Oh, must you go?"

HE: "I'm afraid I must!"

SHE: "What, dearest, you forgot?"

HE: "What's that, darling?"

SHE: "You didn't leave me any ice!"

A SUPER-CRASH

A teacher was explaining the meaning of the word "collision." "A collision," she said, "is when two bodies come together. Can any bright child give me an example of a collision?"

One bright child raised her hand. "I can, teacher! Twins!"

COULDN'T FOOL HER

A high school class was studying Russian geography, and the teacher asked members of the class to name mountain ranges in that country. One student named the Carpathians, and no other answers were forthcoming. Finally the teacher called on a pretty but not too bright lass who frowned unknowingly. The boy sitting behind her leaned forward and furtively whispered something in her ear. She brightened up and said:

"I know, teacher—the Urinals!"

INEXHAUSTIBLE INVENTORY

Preacher Brown was presiding at the congregation's monthly testimony meeting. Brother Jones had been testifying for the past hour about how he was saved from the evils of women, and the congregation was becoming restless.

Finally Preacher Brown interrupted him. "Brother Jones," he demanded, "is you testifyin' or is you braggin'?"

NARCISSISTIC BOVINE

A young farmerette was sent to get some liniment to ease the rheumatism of a cow. A few days later she went back to the druggist in a testy mood.

"Look here," she said. "The other day you gave me perfume instead of liniment, and I put it on the cow before I knew it wasn't liniment."

"Well, it hasn't hurt her, has it?" asked the clerk.

"No," said the girl, "but ever since she's done nothing but look at herself in the pond and sigh."

WELL, WHADDAYAKNOW!

Hiram and his dog were sitting on the wagon seat while Dobbin was pulling the wagon slowly along. The dog suddenly said: "Hey, git up, ya lazy good-for-nothin' critter, afore I whip ye!"

Dobbin turned around and said plaintively: "How would you like to pull this thing in a broiling July sun?"

"I wouldn't at all!" said the dog. Then the dog suddenly looked puzzled, turned to Hiram and said: "Ya know, that's the first time I ever heard a hoss talk!"

Jefferson on Kings

"While in Europe, I often amused myself with contemplating the characters of the then reigning sovereigns. . . . Louis XVI is a fool, and of Naples the same. They passed their lives in hunting. . . . The King of Sardinia was a fool. . . . The Queen of Portugal. . . . was an idiot by nature. And so was the King of Denmark. . . . The King of Prussia, successor to the great Frederick, was a mere hog in body as well as in mind. Gustavus of Sweden and Joseph of Austria, were really crazy, and George of England. . . . was in straight waistcoat. . . . These animals had become without mind and powerless."

—THOMAS JEFFERSON.

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TWO BLADES OF GRASS, by T. Swann Harding. Published by The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma. Price \$3.50.

Too few of us realize what a leading role the U. S. Department of Agriculture has played in making this nation the best fed, clothed and housed on the planet. In "Two Blades of Grass," T. Swann Harding has turned out an admirable account of the great scientific work of the Department. For the better part of a century (it was created in 1862 when President Lincoln signed the law setting it up) it has gone about its largely unheralded task of doing just what the title of the book suggests—making two blades of grass grow where only one (or none) grew before. What has often been described as our "miracle" food production during the war is largely attributable to the research work of this great socialized institution.

Nobody is better qualified to tell this story than Harding, for he started in the Department in 1910 with the Bureau of Chemistry—nearly 40 years of close association with all phases of the work. Through all the vicissitudes of party politics and the spoils system, men like Harding have served quietly throughout the years to make things grow better and faster, to battle bugs and fungus, to resuscitate soils, to make good soils even better, to up milk, egg and wool production, to protect wild life, to expose frauds in food and drugs, to teach housewives how to can fruit and vegetables, to instruct urbanites how to grow vegetables and flowers. The work of the Department in publishing bulletins and reports is a vast one.

Anybody who is seriously interested in "what makes the United States tick," whether or not he is a farmer, should read "Two Blades of Grass." It tells a fascinating story of government service at its best. It serves also to remind us how much better off we would all be if we got as much for our tax dollars from other things as we do from the Department of Agriculture.

—AL SESSIONS

GARDENING IN THE SOUTH AND WEST, Edited by Mrs. Gross R. Scruggs and Margaret Ann Scruggs. Published by Doubleday and Co., 14 W. 49th St., New York 20. Price \$3.00.

There are many books on gardening and floriculture but this one is just about "tops." Californians should also have a reference volume that deals with conditions peculiar to various sections of the state but, even without this, they can get along splendidly with "Gardening in the South and West." It does not deal with vegetables, but it goes exhaustively into flowering plants, vines and trailing plants, bulbs, roses. The chapters on soil, fertilizers, garden layout, fighting insects and pests are invaluable.

All who like to watch plants and flowers grow and develop will be charmed, as well as edified, by this volume. The illustrations by Margaret Ann Scruggs are delightful. Even if you are too lazy to get past the dream stage, so far as a garden is concerned, you can get a lot of pleasure and knowledge by merely turning these pages. But you had better watch out—this book will probably shake you out of your armchair and drive you out to the toolshed! If it does, there isn't anything to worry about, for if you follow the advice and suggestions you can't go wrong on much of anything.

"Gardening in the South and West" does not represent one lady's experience with flowers and plants. The U. S. Department of Agriculture, leading authorities of many agricultural colleges and experiment stations, many practical gardeners have had a hand in checking the advice and suggestions that pack the pages. A well-prepared index will help you to find what you want to know in a hurry. Better add this to your garden library right away!

—AL SESSIONS

African Story Tops

Stuart Cloete's African veld stories have brought him fame, and his best, "Congo Song," has been issued by Popular Library in the 25-cent edition. Although his earlier novels were successes, "Congo Song" proved his high place in American letters. Against the lush background of deepest Africa, with its swamps and marshes, forests and volcanic mountains, and the ever-present din of drums, Cloete weaves the exciting story of Olga La Blanc who, along with her lovers and her tame gorilla, was caught up in a grim drama of life and death. This one will hold you until you finish.—A.E.S.

House Committee Member in Favor Of Fascist Probe

Fascist attacks on the organized labor movement are certainly within the scope of the House subcommittee to investigate fascist activities, Chairman John McDowell (R, Pa.) told Federated Press. His group, a subcommittee of the House un-American activities committee, is preparing to hold hearings shortly. When asked whether he would welcome testimony from union officials detailing the beating of union organizers with name, time and place, he replied: "Certainly. That is fascist activity." Americans have the right to organize into unions, he added, and to prevent their doing so is un-American.

McDowell said he would also welcome hearing from unions on two other forms of fascist activity, namely printed attacks on unions using the anti-Negro and anti-Jewish smear technique, and any organized goon attack on peaceful picketing.

"The right to picket is an American right," he said, indicating that an attack on this right, too, was fascist activity.

"I want to proceed cautiously in this investigation," McDowell said, "because I have a deadly fear of smearing some proper, decent person by calling him a fascist." The same has been done with the communist label, he said. "I want this committee to achieve the dignity that other standing committees of the House have."

McDowell said he thought American fascists were of no great danger to the nation "until some rich men or group of men gets behind them. Then they get really dangerous." Hitler's career, he said, followed this pattern.

Other subcommittee members with McDowell are Rep. Richard B. Vail (R, Ill.) and John S. Wood (D, Ga.). The scheduled hearings, if they follow McDowell's announced plan, would be the first to probe fascist activities without their turning into a sounding board for labor-baiters, Jew-baiters and enemies of the Roosevelt New Deal.

Battle Looms On Funds for Church School

Washington, D. C.

Strong opposition to proposals to use federal tax funds to support church or parochial schools was voiced before the Senate Labor and Public Welfare subcommittee by representatives of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and the Scottish Rite Masons.

Mrs. Stanley Cook of Indian Point, Md., legislative chairman of the national PTA organization, and Elmer E. Rogers, assistant to Sovereign Grand Commander John R. Cowles of the Masonic order's supreme council, testified in opposition to the aid to non-public schools in the two pending bills.

Sen. George Aiken (R, Vt.) chairman of the subcommittee, introduced S. 199, while Sen. Robert A. Taft (R, O.) offered S. 472.

CLAIMS 4 MILLION

Mrs. Cook said her organization is composed of more than 4 million men and women in 27,000 local associations and fully supports plans to increase federal expenditures for education to equalize opportunity among the several states according to needs.

She added that "we support the principle that any such funds appropriated by the federal government should go to public, tax-supported schools only," and would back Taft's bill if the offending section were eliminated. She argued that the private school "promotes religion and ideology and funds given it benefit not only the pupil, but also the school itself and I think that is contrary to the first amendment."

MASONIC ORDER STAND

Rogers took off his wraps entirely in reading Cowles' statement to the committee. He said the Masonic order is "opposed to all federal aid to education . . . and in particular to those bills which contain aid to sectarian schools."

Legislative Chairman David I. Ashe of the United Parents Assn., of New York City, composed of both private and public school members, also attacked federal aid to non-public schools. He declared, such aid "to private schools, including parochial schools, is unconstitutional as violative of the first amendment."



"The New Jersey legislature has set a fine example for Congress to follow," commented Mr. Dilworth over the evening paper.

"I agree," said Little Luther, looking up from his game of Parchesi.

"Why, you amaze me, son," said Mr. Dilworth, taken aback. "It's been a long time since we've seen eye to eye on such fundamentals."

"Don't jump the gun," said Little Luther, rolling an 11 with the dice. "Since you asked me, I'd let Congress go on home and have those Jersey boys take over. Even at time-and-a-half they'd be a bargain."

"My sentiments precisely," intoned Mr. Dilworth.

"Just think," Little Luther went on, "we could apply the New Jersey formula to all our problems, domestic and foreign. We could order corporations to cut their profits; businessmen to reduce prices; we could tell Russia to go hide behind the Urals—and if any of them refused we'd fine them \$10,000 per day per organization and \$500 and \$0 days in the can per day per individual."

"That Russia part sounds good," agreed Mr. Dilworth. "But while even I agree that prices are slightly out of line, that's no way to remedy that situation. The corporations just wouldn't stand for it. And neither would businessmen. I'm afraid you're being a little impractical."

"Oh, now you want perfection," Little Luther protested. "Even the Jersey legislature wasn't so fussy as to ask how the scheme would work. They couldn't make it stick with the unions, either. But it all sounds fine so long as it's hitting everyone but you, doesn't it, you—you diaper dictator, you?"

Co-op Oil Firm Takes Over Second Refinery

Coffeyville, Kansas: Consumers Cooperative Assn. has bought its second oil refinery here from War Assets Administration for \$1,200,000.

Prince of Canines

QUESTION: "What is a hot dog?"

ANSWER: "A hot dog is the noblest of all dogs, because it feeds the hand that bites it."

CONSTRUCTION FOR CALIFORNIA SOARS TO RECORD FIGURE

(Release from State Federation of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

Construction contracts in California for the year of 1946 reached a record-breaking peak estimated at nearly 1 1/2 billion dollars, as announced by A. Earl Washburn, State Director of Reconstruction and Reemployment, in releasing a report compiled by the technical staff of the State Reconstruction and Reemployment Commission. The U. S. Department of Commerce estimated that there was 1.2 billion dollars in private construction in the state in 1946; and to this was added another 255 million dollars in public works for which contracts were actually awarded during the year.

Despite reduced buying power of the construction dollar, the volume of work placed under contract in California during 1946 was undoubtedly greater than for any previous year.

The report gives the following summary of the type of construction:

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION		
	Amount	Percent
Residential	\$315,405,000	38.4
Industrial	116,244,000	13.4
Commercial and Other	181,220,000	20.9
	\$612,875,000	70.7
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION		
	Amount	Percent
Housing	\$ 25,438,000	2.9
Other Buildings	26,474,000	3.0
Other Construction	202,853,000	23.4
Total Public	\$254,765,000	29.3
Total Public and Private	\$867,640,000	100.0

In the last year, California has gained many new factories. A total of 581 contracts were awarded for new factories or industrial plant expansions, 497 of which were in six California counties. Los Angeles County led with 404 and Alameda was second with 45.

Employment in construction in the state increased steadily during most of 1946 and reached a peak of about 185,000 in October. The report explains that because of higher postwar construction costs and the longer time required to complete work, the employment rise has not been as great in comparison with prewar levels as the dollar volume of contracts would indicate.

Telegraphers Cancel Strike After Boost

New York City.

A strike which would have halted all Western Union operations outside New York after May 7 was called off by the Commercial Telegraphers Union (AFL) as agreement was reached on a 5c hourly pay boost for the union's 50,000 members.

Settlement was announced by Federal Conciliator Ronald H. Haughton, who entered the case when the union warned of strike action. Details of the new contract were not disclosed, but Western Union reportedly agreed to a closed shop, dues check-off, 13-weeks sick leave at full pay and added social security benefits. The union had originally asked for a 30c hourly increase.

Large Dniester River Projects Help Moldavia

Kishinev, USSR

Work has begun to make the River Dniester one of the most important waterways in the South of the USSR, navigable along its whole length. A large power station and river shipyard are also to be built on its banks.

When the program is completed in 1949, Moldavia will have a 313-mile waterway linking the Black Sea with the Carpathian foothills and an additional 150,000 acres of cultivated area as a result of reclaiming several districts.

It seems to me that when a woman is wearing shorts her charms are enlarged without being enhanced.—BEVERLEY NICHOLS.

FARM POWER IS CHEAP in NORTHERN and CENTRAL CALIFORNIA



The electric power bills paid by farmers of Northern and Central California are among the lowest in the nation. Latest rural electrification statistics show the following comparison in average cost-per kilowatt-hour for rural power service:

	Average Cost per Kwhr
R. E. A. Cooperatives	3.67 cents
Other utilities (National Average)	2.37 cents
P. G. and E.	1.68 cents

The widespread use of cheap electric power has contributed much to the national leadership now held by California agriculture in crop diversity and production. Electric-powered pumps irrigate the lands to bring higher yields and crop frequency. Electric-driven mechanical helpers offer the farmer speed and economy in performing his farm chores. And in the farm home, electric appliances provide all the conveniences and comfort of urban living.

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Govt. Charges Monopoly Plot By Railroads

Lincoln, Neb. The Justice Department opened an anti-trust suit against the Assn. of American Railroads and similar joint rate-making groups here, charging them with "the most far-reaching concentration of monopoly power thus far known to law."

Other defendants in the suit are 47 western railroads, the Western Assn. of Railway Executives, J. P. Morgan & Co., Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and 89 officers of railroads and associations.

'CONTINUING CONSPIRACY'
Appearing in U. S. district court here, Asst. Atty. Gen. Wendell Berge presented the government's charge of a "broad and continuing combination and conspiracy in violation of the Sherman Act." Two separate offenses were listed in the charges: restraint of trade and commerce in transportation and monopolization of rail transportation.

Berge declared that the so-called western agreement, which prevented western railroads from lowering rates and making improvements, showed a rate discrimination "varying between 112 and 160 percent against the west in favor of the east."

In his bill of particulars the federal attorney also charged that the defendants:

1. Conspired to fix non-competitive freight and passenger rates.
2. Ganged up on rival forms of transportation.
3. Formed alliances with important industrial groups.
4. Evaded the "statutory scheme of regulation" and ignored anti-trust laws.
5. Set up private rate-rigging mechanisms which placed in the hands of the railroads even more power than that possessed by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The Reed-Bulwinkle bill exempting railroads and other carriers from prosecution under the anti-trust laws is due for Senate action soon. It has already won approval of the Senate commerce committee.

And That Ended That
The information-seeking summer visitor was seated with a Yankee in a train. He used what he thought was typical New England country talk, to be more friendly-like:

"I say, stranger, ain't you broke your arm there?"
"Well, yes, I did."
"Had an accident, I reckon as how."
"Not exactly."
"Well, then, how in tarnation did ye come to break it?"
"I did it trying to pat myself on the back."
"My land! On the back! Now, what in the name o' Goshen did ye want to pat yerself on the back fer?"
"Just for minding my own business."

No Doubt About It
LADY (to window cleaner): "Will you have a cup of tea or a glass of beer?"
WINDOW CLEANER: "Beer's best, mum. I finds it gives a better polish when I breathes on the glass."

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Ears Burn as Taylor Pours It on Hoover

Washington, D. C. Although the GOP majority in the Senate forced through a bill changing the name of Boulder Dam to Hoover Dam, Sen. Glen Taylor (D., Ida.) thinks the Republicans didn't do a complete job.

The cowboy solon urged that the majority might also rechristen Lake Mead, back of the dam, "for one of Mr. Hoover's great predecessors, the Hon. Warren G. Harding."

THE SHINY APPLE!
As to the dam itself, Taylor said, "we should authorize the authorities at the dam to adopt as a public insignia for the dam a large H superimposed upon a shiny apple. The apple will remind us of the numerous apple sellers who lined the streets during Mr. Hoover's administration and who served so well to illustrate the solution of that great engineer and economic wizard to the unemployment problem of his day."

While Republicans squirmed unhappily, Taylor recalled that Hoover "once made the dire prediction that, if the American people rejected his 'grass would grow on the city streets' in this country. Alas, that prediction did not come true. Now, at last, when Mr. Hoover is coming into his own it would be a touching tribute to sow grass seeds between the pavements of Boulder City, in the hope that somewhere a bit of green would sprout, bringing to fruition those heroic words of prophecy."

FAMOUS LAST WORDS
Winding up with a flourish, Taylor urged the GOP to "engrave across the face of the dam some of the immortal words which Mr. Hoover used in 1931, when he vetoed the Norris bill to erect a power dam at Muscle Shoals (Ala.) — a project which has since passed and become known as the TVA."

The Hoover phrase Taylor said should be used was:
"For the federal government deliberately to go out to build up . . . a power and manufacturing business is to break down the initiative and enterprise of the American people; it is destruction of equality of opportunity amongst our people; it is the negation of the ideals upon which our civilization has been based."

Closed Shop Pact Of Electricians Defies State Law

Atlanta, Georgia. The Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) and the Georgia Power Co. have signed the first known contract containing the union shop, maintenance of membership and check-off clauses since the passage of Georgia's new labor laws which forbid these practices, it was learned here.

The anti-closed shop law, vigorously opposed by all labor unions, was signed last month by Gov. M. E. Thompson. It specifically bans any contract between unions and employers limiting employment to members or affiliates of labor organizations.

Power company officials declined to comment on the legal aspects of the 2-year contract covering 2,071 employees which requires them to become members of the union having jurisdiction over them within six months after their employment.

The agreement also provides for dues check-off and dismissal of union members who fail to pay their dues.
Bus. Agt. Arnold G. Kennedy of the Atlanta and Columbus IBEW locals said the contract, which also calls for a 17 1/2 percent wage increase and five paid holidays, is not illegal since it actually is only a renewal of an agreement in existence since 1934.

Use of the check-off will not violate the Georgia law prohibiting involuntary check-off, he said, because employees all sign cards voluntarily agreeing to the deductions.

The power company agreement was reached with electrical workers in Atlanta, Rome, Athens, Columbus, Macon and Augusta.

Tip to Workers

Two timid old ladies were being shown through an insane asylum. The inmates were congregated in the yard. One of the ladies asked a burly guard if he did not fear an attack from one of the inmates.

Said the guard: "I think I'm strong enough to handle any of them."
"But what if two of them attacked you at once?" questioned the visitor.

"Well, I think I can handle any two of them," was the answer.
Whereupon, the other old lady asked what would happen if all of the inmates attacked him at one time.

"Look, lady," said the guard, "if these people were smart enough to organize, they wouldn't be in here."

With Local 890 FRUIT & PRODUCE DRIVERS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND EMPLOYEES UNION

Main and John Streets
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TO ALL PRODUCE DRIVERS: 500 copies of the current produce drivers' agreement are at the office in Salinas. They are of pocket size so that you can carry them while on the job. Please call at the Union office for a copy of your working agreement—all rules and conditions are contained in that agreement.

It is important that you become familiar with the language pertaining to seniority, and other conditions contained in the agreement. If you are unable to come to the office for your copy, request one by mail.

This column has carried reports from time to time regarding retroactive pay for all produce drivers. The Association agreed to make good any back pay on May 3. If you do not receive any monies due you in accordance with the terms of the present agreement when you read this column, notify the office of the Union by phoning Salinas 4893.

As this paper goes to press, applications are being distributed and signed by all of the employees, members of the Shipper-Growers Association, with respect to unemployment insurance coverage.

Attention All Members: Your insurance policies are at the Salinas office. Will you please call for them in person so that we may ascertain proper identity and at the same time make the necessary corrections if any are to be made.

S. P. Milling Co. Employees: As reported last week, the Arbitration Committee, made up of one representative of the Company, one of the Union, and Mr. McCarey of Monterey as chairman and impartial arbiter, had a meeting on Saturday, May 3. The result of this meeting will effectuate a decision with regards to our long standing dispute affecting wages, hours and conditions; and this decision will have some effect on the Mitchell Siliman and the Eckhart Seed contracts. We will notify you immediately upon receipt of such official decision.

The following concerns who are presently closed should start full production July 1: Frank Raiter Canning Co., Dempsey-Hudson Co., Watsonville Canning Co. of Watsonville, and C. B. Gentry Co. of Gilroy. This work is tentative, but in the past these plants have started their seasons on or about July 1. Contracts are in the process of negotiation for all of the concerns herein mentioned with the exception of Dempsey-Hudson Co. Negotiation with this firm shall start in June.

Your Union is pleased to report that an agreement has been reached with Driscoll Strawberries, Inc. for a three-month period. This will give employment to approximately 100 members of our Union. Wage rates range from \$1 minimum for women to \$1.15 minimum for men, and time and one-half after eight hours; also a five-cent differential per hour for the second shift.

NOTES HERE AND THERE
We regret to hear that James Gibbs is at the Salinas Valley Hospital for an operation. Bro. Gibbs was a watchman at the Frank Raiter Canning Co. All the members wish him a speedy recovery.
Elmo Johnson, our executive board member and a driver at the K. R. Nitting Co., recently missed out on winning a new automobile which was raffled by the 4-H Club of Monterey County. It seems that the winning ticket was offered for sale to him by his daughter, but Bro. Elmo not being employed at the time, was unable to purchase the ticket at the moment, thereby losing out on an investment of \$2,000. Ironically, it seems, good-natured Bro. Johnson laughed it off—that is the spirit that makes us all want to go on.

It is important that you register now in order to be eligible to vote when the proper time comes. You may register at the office of the Union.

Have you received your copy of the booklet, "Who Are the Teamsters?" If not, ask for one when paying your dues.

To Our Veteran Members: Are you interested in our Veteran Column? Do you wish your Union to continue writing articles for the benefit of veteran members? If so we would appreciate some comment.

This Union will also write articles on unemployment insurance and social security, periodically. At present you may call at the office and have the office secretary fill out a social security form for you which can be mailed to Baltimore, Md., requesting an account of your wage record to date. There are no charges for this service.

Pay your dues in order to be in benefit standing. Remember to contribute to the Cancer Drive.

IMPORTANT
DO NOT CROSS PICKET

Surrey Charges Press Fails to Keep Public Informed on Issues

Denver, Colo.

As the American Newspaper Publishers Assn. was meeting in New York, a National Opinion Research Center poll revealed that the U. S. press has failed to keep the people informed on such a perennial political issue as the tariff.

Less than half the public, NORC found, had a reasonably clear idea of what tariffs are or how they work. About a third confessed they didn't know and the remaining answers ranged from vague, confused notions to completely incorrect ideas.

Some of the answers wandered amazingly far afield. "A tariff is the same thing as the old OPA," said one. One person defined it: "A quarrel or being terrified."

Czech Air Line Workers Strike

Prague, Czechoslovakia
Plane crews of the Czechoslovakian Air Lines struck for 24 hours recently over a demand for changes in the management and in the workshops of the company at the airfield. The crews expressed the opinion that incorrect adjustment of the tailplane flaps was one of the causes of the previous Dakota crash near Kladno. The crews complained that top positions in the company were filled without considering the expert knowledge of the applicants and the security of the flying personnel. A full inquiry was demanded.

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All's Not Gold That Glitters!

Raymond, Washington. The death in the nation's capital of Rep. Fred Norman (R) and the pending by-election to replace him have labor circles in a ferment here.

Norman, a member of the Shingle Weavers Union (AFL), was endorsed by large sections of the AFL in his district, but in his final vote before death he voted for passage of the sweeping anti-labor Hartley bill.

The third district, from which Norman was elected in 1942 and again last year, has seen the closest contests in the state. The coming special election will attract the attention of the nation, it is felt, because it will mark the first important gauge of public feeling toward the Republican Congress.

BLDG. TRADES COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Pres. W. J. Dickerson at 8 p.m., May 1. Roll call showed 17 delegates from 8 local unions.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

All bills were approved and ordered paid.

Report of the Executive Board was read and approved.

Report of the Trustees was read and approved. The Trustees gave consideration to the reports returned by the Local Unions and made the following recommendations:

It is recommended that the per capita due the Building and Construction Trades Council be set at 65 percent of one hour's pay per member per month, effective May 1, 1947, for a period of six months and if found satisfactory, it will be continued. We further recommend that all Local Unions be required to pay in full up to May 1, 1947, at the rate of per capita now in effect, which is one hour's pay per member per month. Signed: J. Alsop, M. Fales, W. T. Evans, trustees; R. Deakin, absent.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Bro. R. S. Rial was out of town on business for a sister local union.

Bro. S. M. Thomas, business agent for Hod Carriers and Laborers L. U. 690, reports the condition of the jobs he had visited, he states that the De. Ameral Construction was operating with a non-union crew but was used on excavating and grading for new construction of union jobs.

Bro. R. E. Estis, business agent Painters L. U. No. 272, states the employers say that work is falling off, but all his men are employed and the work at Fort Ord is moving along in good order.

The reports were accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received a letter from Fish Cannery L. U. indorsing Tony Alvas for City Councilman in the May 12, 1947, election in Monterey. (Post on bulletin.)

Received a letter from General Delivery Truck Drivers L. U. No. 296 stating they had placed the Golden Crust Bakers Co. of Watsonville on the "We Do Not Patronize" list. (Post on board.)

A report from the State Building and Construction Trades Council on a hearing in the State Senate Labor Committee of April 24, 1947, where many labor bills were considered.

A report from the State B. and C. T. C. listing the labor bills that have been passed by the State Assembly and sent to the Governor.

A report from the General President of the B. and C. T. Dept. giving their present program for settling jurisdiction disputes. Filed.

A letter from the B. and C. T. Dept. with a copy of a letter from Mr. M. H. Hedges, chairman on a committee of Apprenticeship Training instructing Local Apprenticeship Committees to keep active.

A letter from C. F. Mathews with a letter from L. J. Bevaumont, manager Pacific Gas & Electric covering the agreement with Electrical Workers L. U. 1245-B.

There will be a meeting May 5, 1947, in the B. and C. T. Building, 200 Guerrero street, San Francisco, to consider the agreement and letter from Mr. Bevaumont.

Received a copy of minutes from B. and C. T. C. of Santa Clara County, and Pile Butts L. U. No. 34 of San Francisco.

A letter from California State Federation of Labor with a copy of a speech made in San Bernardino by C. J. Haggerty showing the cost of labor in buildings is 33.9 percent of the actual cost of the building.

From California State Federation of Labor giving a summary of the National Housing Commission Bill (S 866).

Received two news letters from California State Federation of Labor.

REPORTS OF UNIONS

Bro. Louis Casati, L. U. No. 690, will meet Tuesday, May 6.

Bro. M. Fales, L. U. No. 1072, no meeting.

Bro. Grover Bethards, L. U. No. 1323, meeting Monday, May 5.

Bro. J. L. Bolin, L. U. No. 272, no report.

Bro. Isakson, L. U. No. 324, meeting Friday, May 2.

Bro. Joseph Real, L. U. No. 16, no report.

Bro. Wilkerson, L. U. No. 287, getting better organized.

Bro. Long, L. U. No. 62, will hold a dinner party May 2, with the wives, and expect it to be a grand success.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved and seconded that the insurance policy formerly held jointly with L. U. 1323, now be held solely by the Council. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that when Local Unions become delinquent in their per capita to the Council, they stand suspended and shall be notified by registered mail. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that a letter be sent to Brother Fred Hoffman of L. U. 287 requesting their per capita to the Council be increased to include all the Building Trades Drivers in this area. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that when it becomes necessary for a Local Union to send the Business Manager out of town on personal business, the Chairman of the Executive Board be notified. Carried.

GOOD OF THE COUNCIL

Several minutes of discussion of overtime work, Saturdays or Sundays, was discussed.

No further business to come before the Council the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
L. T. LONG, Sec.

Many persons who pose as fountain of knowledge are intellectually nothing more than little squirts.—SHANNON FIFE.

NOTES FOR SALINAS PAINTERS

(Compiled by Carl Lara, Business Agent of Salinas Painters Union 1101)

Start of painting on the new Veterans Administration job at the Salinas Army Air Base will be sometime late in May or early in June.

This will be a big job for the painters union and will give us a lot of work.

Mrs. Wayne Humphrey, wife of a member of Local 1101, has been seriously ill but she has been released from the hospital following an operation and is at her home now.

TO MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1101:

If you move or change your address, please let the union have your correct address at once. This is vital to keep our records up to date.

The union sends each member the "Painter and Decorator," official magazine of the International union which contains a lot of information of importance to painters.

The union also sends to each member the Monterey County Labor News, which has news and features regarding labor activities here in Salinas area.

Be sure the union has your correct address.

Local 1101 is investigating the activities of the M. H. Kerlee whitewashing firm which is non-union but which has been working in Salinas. The Kerlee firm spray-painted the Standard Machine Shop in Salinas. If the investigation warrants, the firms will be called before the Central Labor Council for action.

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History of Negro Told

A scholarly work on the place of the Negro in American history and telling the story of the development of the race from Africa to the present has won high praise of students and critics. (THE NEGRO, TOO, IN AMERICAN HISTORY, National Publication Co., Nashville, Tenn. \$3).

Prof. Merl R. Eppse, the author, is professor of history in the Tennessee A. and I. State College and has specialized in history for 15 years. He is noted as an authority on the Negro question. In this work he discusses the people of Africa, slave life, the part the Negro played in the Revolutionary War, the period from Washington to Lincoln, the Civil War and reconstruction period and the first World War period.

Many little-known facts about the contributions of the Negro to American culture and economic development are presented convincingly. Special chapters are devoted to the situation from 1938 to 1943 and problems of discrimination in connection with the recent war effort. A large appendix supplies a wealth of data on the Negro, and an excellent index helps the reader to find what he wants in the nearly 600 pages of the book.

The Negro problem remains one of top importance in the United States. This carefully prepared study is recommended, not only for general reading, but as a reference book.—A. E. S.

Leader Warns

Negro Coming

Slump Serious

New York City.

On a recent trip throughout the middle West and Pacific Coast covering some twenty or more cities, A. Philip Randolph, in public addresses to interracial and interfaith audiences, pointed out the coming economic disaster.

He stated, "that it was apparent in various communities he visited that the bottom was going to drop out of business and Negroes who had taken on excessive property holdings would, in the period of an industrial depression, find themselves greatly handicapped by unemployment and reduced income to maintain their present economic status. He urged Negroes to begin to plan now for a drastic economic readjustment so as to be able to hold their economic gains and avoid destructive liquidation."

Popular Ditty -- 1947

Where oh where has my little shirt gone?

Where oh where can it be?

With its tail cut short

And its price cut long,

Oh where oh where has it gone?

Shoppers

Here

Where Free Parking Spaces are Plentiful

Shoppers

Here

Where Free Parking Spaces are Plentiful

Shoppers

Here

Where Free Parking Spaces are Plentiful

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